

Appl. No. : 09/943,483
Filed : August 29, 2001

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-6 (Canceled).

7. (Currently amended) A padded sign displaying apparatus, comprising:

a folding chair having a pair of spaced legs and a seat portion and a back rest portion having a first shape that extends between the spaced legs wherein the back rest portion provides support for a person's back when sitting on the seat portion wherein the back rest portion includes a first edge and a second edge that is disposed opposite from the first edge; and

a padded sign comprising:

a main body portion formed of a first plastic material and having the first shape having dimensions that conform to dimensions of the back rest portion such that the main body also includes a first edge and a second edge that is disposed generally opposite from the first edge of the main body, wherein the main body comprises a panel that defines a front surface and a rear surface;

a plurality of integral retainers formed of the first plastic material that extend contiguously from the first and second edges of the main body wherein the plurality of integral retainers have hook shapes biased toward the rear surface of the main body so as to allow urging of the plurality of hook shaped retainers into engagement with the first and second edges of the back rest portion thereby securing the main body of the padded sign to the back rest portion of the folding chair so that the main body portion substantially covers the first shape of the back rest portion.

a padding having an outer surface attached to the main body wherein a message is inscribed on the outer surface of the padding so as to be positioned in front of the front surface of the main body.

8. (Previously presented) The apparatus of Claim 7, wherein the main body and the plurality of retainers are constructed of plastic.

9. (Previously presented) The apparatus of Claim 8, wherein the main body is a ¼ inch thick plastic.

10. (Canceled).

Appl. No. : 09/943,483
Filed : August 29, 2001

11. (Canceled).
12. (Previously presented) The apparatus of Claim 7, wherein the padded sign attached to the back rest portion of the folding chair is contoured to the back rest portion so as to retain the functional profile of the back rest portion.
13. (Previously presented) The apparatus of Claim 7, wherein the padding is attached to the main body by securing the padding onto the rear surface of the main body.
14. (Previously presented) The apparatus of Claim 13, wherein the padding is stapled to the rear surface of the main body.
15. (Currently amended) A folding chair having a folded and an unfolded configuration comprising:

a back rest portion with an upper edge and a lower edge wherein the back rest portion provides support for a person's back when sitting on the folding chair and wherein the back rest portion defines a first shape; and

a main body portion formed of a first plastic comprising a panel having an upper edge and a lower edge wherein the main body also has the first shape;

a plurality of retainers formed of the first plastic integrally formed to the main body so that they extend contiguously from the upper and lower edges of the main body, wherein each of the plurality of retainers has a hook shape that can be urged over its respective edge of the back rest portion so as to allow securing of the main body to the back rest portion, wherein the plurality of retainers include at least one upper retainer that extends from the upper edge of the main body wherein the at least one upper retainer and the at least one lower retainer are interconnected by the panel of the main body, and wherein the at least one upper and lower retainers are formed of a flexible material that allows the user to urge the at least one upper and lower retainers into and out of engagement of the upper and lower edges of the back rest portion to install and remove the main body from the chair and wherein the main body portion is maintained in position by the plurality of retainers so as to substantially cover the first shape of the back rest portion; and

a padding attached to the main body such that the main body is interposed between the padding and the back rest portion and such that the padding defines a first

Appl. No. : 09/943,483
Filed : August 29, 2001

surface that comes into contact with the person's back when the person's back is supported by the back rest portion and wherein the message is inscribed on the first surface of the padding such that the message is visible when viewed from in front of the folding chair.

16. (Original) The folding chair of Claim 15, wherein the folding chair with the sign displaying device attached to the back rest portion has substantially similar dimensions as a folding chair without the sign displaying device attached.

17. (Original) The folding chair of Claim 16, wherein the folding chair with the sign displaying device attached to the back rest portion can be folded and unfolded without removing the sign displaying device.

18. (Previously presented) The folding chair of Claim 17, wherein a plurality of folding chairs with sign displaying devices attached can be stacked together when in the folded configuration.

19. (Original) The folding chair of Claim 15, wherein a user can sit on the unfolded folding chair and rest the user's back on the back rest portion of the folding chair with the sign displaying device attached to the back rest portion.

20. (Original) The folding chair of Claim 15, wherein the message displayed on the sign displaying device attached to the back rest portion enhances the appearance of the folding chair.

21. (Previously presented) The folding chair of claim 20, wherein a plurality of folding chairs with messages displayed on a plurality of sign displaying devices enhance an overall atmosphere of the gathering for which the folding chairs are being used.

Claims 22-31 (Canceled).

32. (Previously presented) The apparatus of Claim 7 wherein the first edge of the backrest portion and the first edge of the main body are oriented towards the top of the backrest portion and the second edge of the backrest portion and the second edge of the main body are oriented toward the bottom of the backrest portion.

33. (Previously presented) The folding chair of Claim 15, wherein the upper edge of the backrest portion and the upper edge of the main body are oriented towards the top of the

Appl. No. : **09/943,483**
Filed : **August 29, 2001**

backrest portion and the lower edge of the backrest portion and the lower edge of the main body are oriented towards the bottom of the backrest portion.